

## Star Studded Night

By Andrea Wiener

A suprisingly large number of people gathered in Sternberger Auditorium on Saturday, November 6, to view an even more surprising amount of talent in the Guilford College Choir's first talent show. The show was sponsored by the choir to raise money, but more than that, to heighten student awareness of both choir and the talent present at Guilford.

Organized by Mary Hildeman and Liz White, members of the choir, the show took a great deal of hard work and time. It apparently was worth it though because Liz commented, "I was surprised and pleased at the turnout. It shows that students do care about what other students are doing."

There were twenty-one acts and although there were no auditions, screenings were held to assure that the participants were serious about the show. Acts ranged from singing and guitar and piano playing to a spoof on the musical "Grease" and even magic.

### Squirrel vs. Scholar

by David Nash  
Staff Writer

Although Guilford's squirrels have always been friendly and active, I knew I had a particularly precocious squirrel when he asked me, "What are you carrying?" "Just books," I sighed.

"Humans are so natural," he said. Seeing me draw back defensively, he began, "I know—I've watched thousands of people. You go to high school to go to college; you go to college to get a good job; you get a good job so you can retire in your old age to be yourself for a few years before you die. Of course you may never live that long. Where does it get you? Look how you 'relax'—you sit in front of the TV, or you might go all out and consume large amounts of your favorite intoxicant. But none of this works because you constantly repeat it. Enjoy yourself, instead, and do what you want to do. I have a ball chasing other squirrels and jumping through trees."

"Let's face facts, squirrel. I will have to work," I maintained. The squirrel stood up, motionlessly. I could see his blue-gray eyes were full and content with experience. I could also see something of myself in them. He began talking—through his eyes it seemed, but that would be impossible. "Change your attitude then. I work too. I must bury nuts, but I make a game of looking for the best hiding places, and I keep a treasure map of my nuts in my head. So I have fun—so much fun that work is non-work for me, like a limited fun. You have to enjoy yourself; you can't substitute anyone else for yourself.

"In fact, anyone else would be inadequate."

First, second and third place prizes were decided on and awarded by a panel of judges comprised of President Rogers, Betsy Hunt, Doug Gilmer, and Cathy Coe. First place went to Nancy Taylor who sang and played on the piano a song which she wrote both the lyrics and music for called "A Musician's Legacy." She participated in other acts as well. Awarded second place was the trio of Hubert Cash, Allen Krusenstjerna and Tracey Welborn who played guitars and sang two pieces, Cat Stevens' "Father and Son" and a Bahamian rhythm called "Shotgun Wedding." Third place was won by Bill Grimsley who amazed and amused the audience with his variety of magic tricks and illusions. It is hoped that the show will encourage students to display their talents at Open Mike Night during Serendipity Week.

From the turnout, the show was obviously successful with the students. Edward Lowe, Guilford's choir director, was also pleased with the outcome. He remarked, "I am overjoyed that the desire of collaborating with music and drama has become a reality. From this artistic involvement I have been able to witness raw talent surfacing from students that normally



Roy Stalter

Allen Krusenstjerna performs in the choir sponsored talent show. Allen's trio won second place.

would not have been able to express themselves artistically and to share their hidden talents." With this optimistic note it seems

more than probable that the Choir Talent Show could become an annual and warmly welcomed event.

## Thinking Capsule

by John Cox  
Staff Writer



RJ

"It is better to die standing up than to live on your knees," read the few banners still to be seen in Polish cities. For the most part a gloomy silence has settled over the workers of Poland. In October the government outlawed the Solidarity labor union, and three days of rioting by workers ensued. One young Pole was shot to death by the state police. At his funeral several days later, over 10,000 workers, many bearing flowers and signs, marched in grave silence in a gesture of oneness.

Any nationwide support the now-emaculated Solidarity might have once possessed, however, is now probably gone. The underground leaders of the union called for a November 10th nationwide strike, but the effort failed miserably. Heavily armed police attend every union gathering, and it is now obvious that Solidarity wishes to avoid direct confrontations with the Russian-pressured government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski.

There is some good news from Poland, however. Twenty workers have made a daring defection to Sweden by flying over the Baltic Sea in a biplane crop-duster. It also appears that former Solidarity chief Lech Walesa, imprisoned when martial law was imposed eleven months ago, has been freed. His release, although it is only a symbolic gesture since Solidarity has already been effectively crushed, came just after Pope John Paul announced the rescheduling of his trip to Poland for June. Events indicate that the Polish government is now willing to compromise in order to ease tension.

### Soviet Union

Soviet president Leonid Brezhnev died on Wednesday, November 10th of heart failure. He was 75 years old. Leader of Russia for 18 years, Brezhnev had been ailing for several years. He was buried on Monday, November 15th, in the biggest funeral in the USSR since that of Joseph Stalin in 1953.

Yuri Andropov, 68, has been elected Brezhnev's successor. Andropov recently retired from his post as head of the KGB (state security police), but in spite of his KGB connection he is thought to be somewhat of a "reformer." The Soviet Union has no constitutional procedures for determining leadership succession, so there is often a period of intense, if quiet, power struggle following the death of a president. Unlike the US, Russia has a two-faceted, parallel power structure: the state apparatus and the party hierarchy. Brezhnev held the top post of both power structures, but it could take several years for another leader to obtain such a strong position.

### USA

November 2nd was election day across the nation, and the Democrats came out the big winners. A large voter turnout helped the Democrats win seven new governorships, twenty-six new seats in the House, and 20 of 33 contested Senate seats. Many analysts see the results as a statement of public dissatisfaction with President Reagan's economic plans. The traditional Democratic coalition of women, minorities, and union workers—which fell apart in 1980 when Reagan was elected—is congealing again.

Perhaps the biggest shock came for Jesse Helm's big money National Congressional Club, several of whose well-financed candidates suffered surprise defeats. The very conservative Helms, who faces re-election in 1984, claims that "the people got snookered" in the elections.

On Saturday, November 13th, a black granite monument honoring our Vietnam casualties was dedicated in Washington, DC. The privately financed memorial is engraved with the names of the nearly 58,000 Americans killed in the Southeast Asian war.

On Veteran's Day a group of children of war victims laid flowers at the site, evoking tears from bystanders. Echoing the feelings of a still-mourning nation, President Reagan said the monument is "a tribute that is long overdue."